

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 13, 2003

breath and look at what it is that we're doing. It may sound good on its surface. It may be alluring, especially at a time like this when we're early in the session, there is no pressure of any kind right today. But I do not want a set of circumstances where, regardless of what is in a bill that the Appropriations Committee offers, it automatically is going to be introducible just by signing it and putting it on the Clerk's desk. If everybody were an angel we would not need courts, we would not need laws, we would not need rules, we would not need any of those regulations, but not everybody is an angel, with the possible exception of the one speaking, because some have entertained angels unawares...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...so we really don't know for sure. But since in the ordinary course of affairs we're going to deal with human beings who are laboring under pressures of various kinds, the rules should not be changed to accommodate that set of circumstances when what they want to do can be accomplished under the rules, as they stand now. Thank you, Mr. President...Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Raikes.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I also have reservations about this rule proposal, maybe on a little bit different score. Certainly, when it comes to budgets and cuts that need to be made and so on, the Appropriations Committee is the body's leader, so to speak. I think the Appropriations Committee certainly has knowledge and does a lot of work that gives them a special qualification, if you will, to deal with these sorts of situations. But I think, to a large extent, every committee and every member needs to be intimately involved in the discussion about budget and cuts. And, in fact, in areas, education, for example, the committee, Education Committee, makes itself especially aware of spending programs and so on that deal with education, so it should have a better perspective on what possibilities there are for reducing expenditures in that area. One of the negative side effects I see of this proposal is, to some extent, you may well take every